

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13,16,25 and 26 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

Applicant's arguments, see Remarks pages 5-7, filed October 19, 2006, with respect to claims 13 and 16 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 13 and 16 has been withdrawn. Specifically, Pedersen (US 5,862,348), the closest prior art of record, fails to disclose the subject matter of claims 13 and 16. Further, the subject matter of claims 13 and 16 is not an obvious variant of the invention disclosed by Pedersen.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Pertinent prior art includes: Waters et al. (US 5,841,980), disclosing a distributed system for communication networks in multi-user applications; Grimm et al. (US 5,828,843), disclosing an object-oriented method for matching clients together with servers according to attributes included in a join request; Perlman (US 5,586,257 and US 5,558,339), disclosing network architectures to support real-time video games; Wallis (US 5,740,371), disclosing means for load balancing of connections to parallel servers; and Hu (US 6,173,322 B1), disclosing a means for network request distribution based on static rules and dynamic performance data.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MEAGAN THOMASSON whose telephone number is (571)272-2080. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 830-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on (571) 272-7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/John M Hotaling II/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3714

Meagan Thomasson
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